

Subject Departments in schools

A number of **subject guides** have been developed and are available on LTS. Copy and paste this link into your internet browser:

www.ltscotland.org.uk/enterpriseineducation/findresources/subjectguides.asp

- Have you seen the range of vocational links with languages? There is a **Vocational Languages Resource Bank** which gives lots of help. Copy and paste this link into your internet browser: <http://www.vlrb.org.uk/> This could be useful for other than languages departments!
- Are you aware of **the resources available from BMW** for science education? <http://www.bmweducation.co.uk>

Curricular projects can be and are extremely diverse. Learning in context through links with business and industry is an explicit requirement of the majority of courses. Currently, a majority of schools and subject departments undertake 'topic studies' or projects with a clear business or industry focus. These have proved to be extremely successful. There are a few simple guidelines that may be of value when developing a curricular project in partnership with a company.

A project may include an integrated curricular insert or use the business locus as the hub around which all other activities are generated. There are some resource packs produced for the secondary sector by Standard Life or the Royal Bank of Scotland, for example, which encourage the development of a coherent range of knowledge, skills and activities. In many cases there is direct support from the company for the activities proposed in their packs.

BENEFITS FOR PUPILS

- Increased motivation for curricular work
- Access to additional human, physical and other resources
- Enriched methods of learning such as realistic simulations

BENEFITS FOR BUSINESS

- Positive public relations
- Increased awareness of their area of business
- An opportunity for staff development and improved motivation
- Greater awareness of young people and of the curriculum
- Access to potential recruits
- Increased self-esteem for participating staff

ORGANISATIONAL ISSUES FOR SCHOOLS

This depends on the nature and scale of the project. Factors to consider are:

- age and ability of the pupils
- nature of the course work
- the attendant logistics when planning visits to business and visits from business, including timing the business contribution to coincide with the school/project programme, and transport and health and safety issues if a 'site visit' or 'field study' is part of the project

COMMITMENT REQUIRED FROM COMPANIES

- Time to work in partnership with the teachers and pupils to discuss the needs of the pupils and to plan the project so that those contributing to workshops, visits, training and resourcing

know exactly what will be expected of them
• Potentially — human and physical resources

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

• If the project is to be successful, a significant amount of staff time will be required in the planning and delivery phases of the project.

CERTIFICATION POSSIBILITIES

Where possible all certificated courses should contain elements of work related learning.

YEAR GROUP TARGETED

S3-S6

CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

The Enterprise website has many examples.
Look at http://www.eie-edinburgh.co.uk/resource_centre/81/downloads/13/ for a range of subject suggestions.